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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APR 21 2005

**Applicants:** Egashira *et al.***Conf. No.:** 3272**Serial No.:** 09/977,634**Art Unit:** 3625**Filing Date:** 10/15/2001**Examiner:** Pond, Robert M.**Title:** METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
COMMODITY SALES**Docket No.:** JP920000319US1  
(IBMR-0108)Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

**I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

This paper is being filed in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination dated April 21, 2005. Please enter the following amendments prior to the first examination on the merits:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.